

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Survey No. <sup>B-</sup>4673

### 1. Name

Historic 1630-1642 Ellsworth Street  
and / common

### 2. Location

street & number 1630-1642 Ellsworth Street  
city, town Baltimore  
state & zip code Maryland 21205 county

### 3. Classification

#### Category

☐ district  
☒ building(s)  
☐ structure  
☐ site  
☐ object

#### Ownership

☐ public  
☒ private  
☐ both

#### Public Acquisition

☐ in process  
☐ being considered  
☐ not applicable

#### Status

☒ occupied  
☐ unoccupied  
☐ work in progress

#### Accessible

☒ yes: restricted  
☐ yes: unrestricted  
☐ no

#### Present Use

☐ agriculture ☐ museum  
☐ commercial ☐ park  
☐ educational ☒ private residence  
☐ entertainment ☐ religious  
☐ government ☐ scientific  
☐ industrial ☐ transportation  
☐ military ☐ other:

### 4. Owner of Property

name  
street & number telephone  
city, town state & zip code

### 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore City Land Records liber  
street & number Clarence Mitchell Courthouse folio  
city, town Baltimore State Maryland

### 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title  
date federal state county local  
depository for survey records  
city, town state & zip code

## 7. Description

Condition		Check One	Check One
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	X original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	X altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved:
X <input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date of move: _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This row of seven (originally ten, 1626 - 1644) two-story, two-bay wide late Italianate-style brick houses with shed roofs and wooden scroll-sawn bracketed cornices were built in 1888 by Erastus Tucker, a builder of working class houses in East Baltimore. The houses retain their original brick facades, which were originally painted.

The houses are two stories in height, 12' wide (15' at the eastern end of the row, designed for a combination storefront/residence), and occupy lots 65' deep. Each house is three small rooms deep and there is no back building. The houses are constructed in running bond and were originally painted. Each house has a hooded chimney located near the front and rear of the house. The shed roofs are capped by a wooden cornice consisting of a crown molding supported by three long scroll-sawn brackets decorated with grooves, connected by a lower molding strip with quarter-round decoration, and ending with a distinct trefoil pattern. The frieze panel, which also serves as ventilation for the attic, is decorated with a row of jig-sawn "x" motifs framed by a cut-work lower molding strip.

The tall, narrow window and door openings have segmentally arched brick lintels and scroll-sawn tympanums. Several of the original 2/2 sash survive. The sills are wood. The single light doorway transom is decorated by a cut-work band similar to that in the frieze. The houses sit on high basements, lit by a single-light sash, with a flat wood lintel. Each house is reached by four concrete steps.

The entire row was demolished in the summer of 1998.

## 8. Significance

Period	Area of significance	check one & justify			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theatre	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other: specify	

**Specific dates** 1888

**Builder/Architect** Erastus Tucker

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This group of houses is significant in that it represents the level of architectural stylishness achieved by many builders of small street houses in the late nineteenth century. The houses were built by Erastus Tucker, a fairly modest Baltimore builder listed in city directories as a carpenter, according to a pattern that was quite common to the city's working class neighborhoods of the period c. 1880 to 1910. Recognizing that workers held different levels of jobs (and pay), builders created a hierarchy of house sizes (and prices) in the new neighborhoods going up to serve the expanding factory districts ringing the harbor and northeast of the central city. Builders acquired anywhere from an eighth to a half of a city block and built 14' to 15'-wide two-story houses on the main streets, and smaller, 11' to 13'-wide two-story houses on the narrower streets bisecting the blocks. Typically, in this period, main street houses might sell for \$1,300 to \$1,500; small street houses for \$400 to \$600.

Tucker also built the original houses to the north of this row, along the south side of Hoffman St. The owners of the land, Isaac and Emanuel Ellinger, built the three story houses in this block facing Broadway but leased out their small street lots to other builders.

At the time of construction the street was known as St. Joseph's Street, after St. Joseph's Hospital, which occupied the block bounded by Eden, Caroline, Hoffman, and Oliver.

## 9. Major Bibliographic References

Mary Ellen Hayward and Charles Belfoure, *The Baltimore Rowhouse*  
(New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 1999)

## 10. Geographic Data

Acreage of nominated property

Quadrangle name

Verbal boundary description and justification

## 11. Form Prepared by

name / title Dr. Mary Ellen Hayward

Organization The Alley House Project

date June 2000

street & number 1306 Carrollton Ave.

telephone

city, town Baltimore

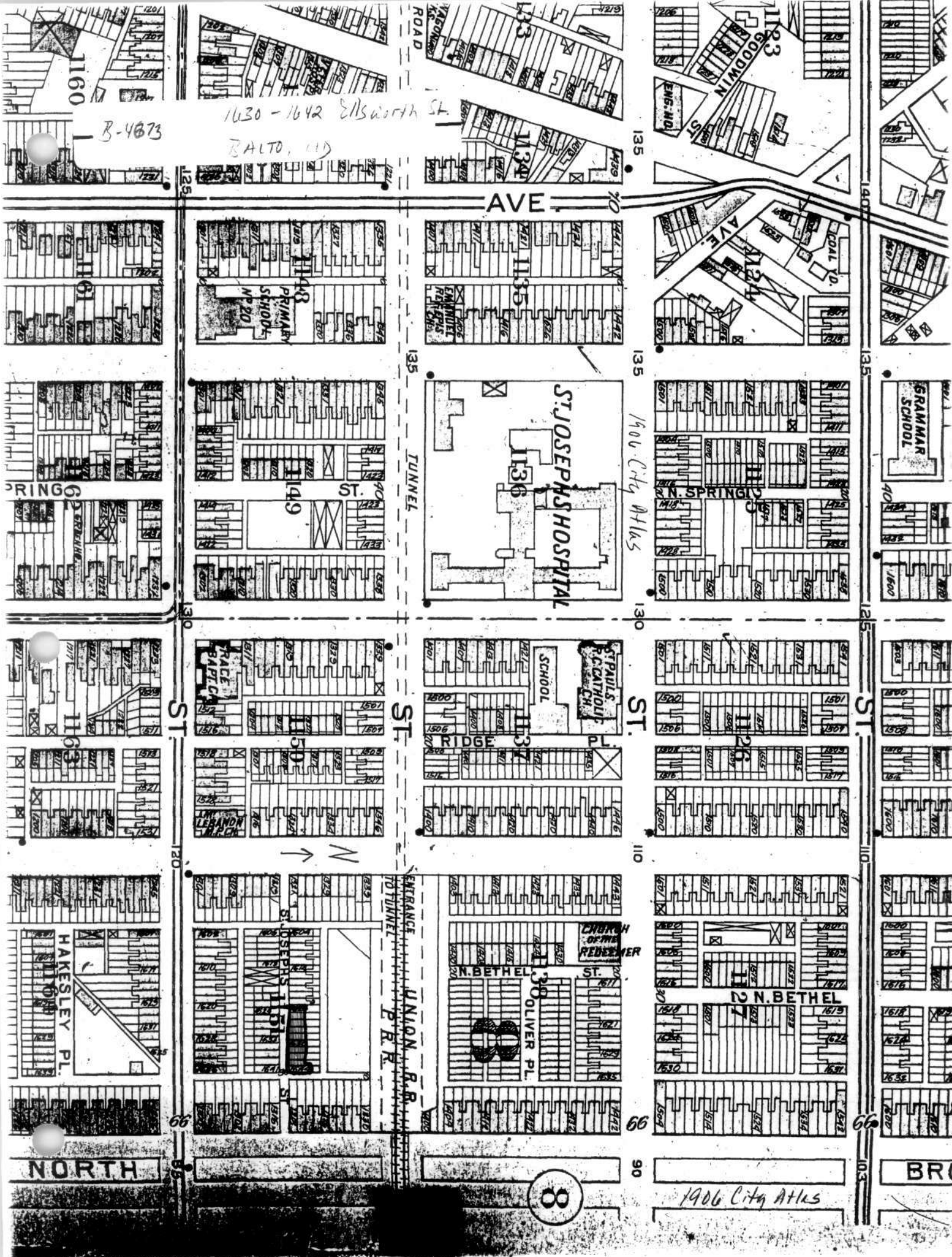
state & zip code Maryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of property rights.

Return to:  
DHCP/DHCD  
Maryland Historical Trust  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville MD 21032-2023





1630-1642 Ellsworth St  
BALTO, MD

AVE

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL

GRAMMAR SCHOOL

ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

N. BETHEL

PRINGO ST.

TUNNEL

HAKESLEY PL.

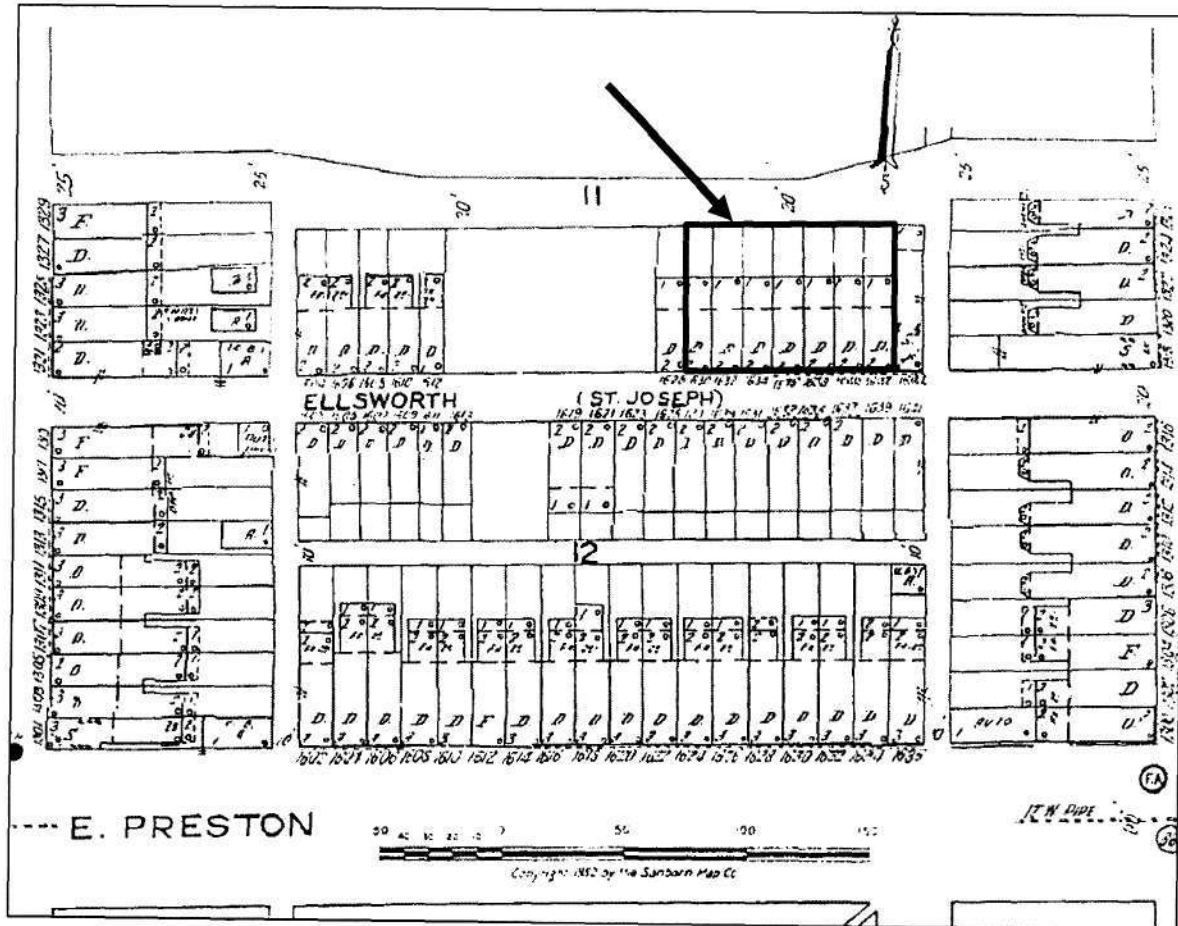
NORTH

80

1906 City Atlas

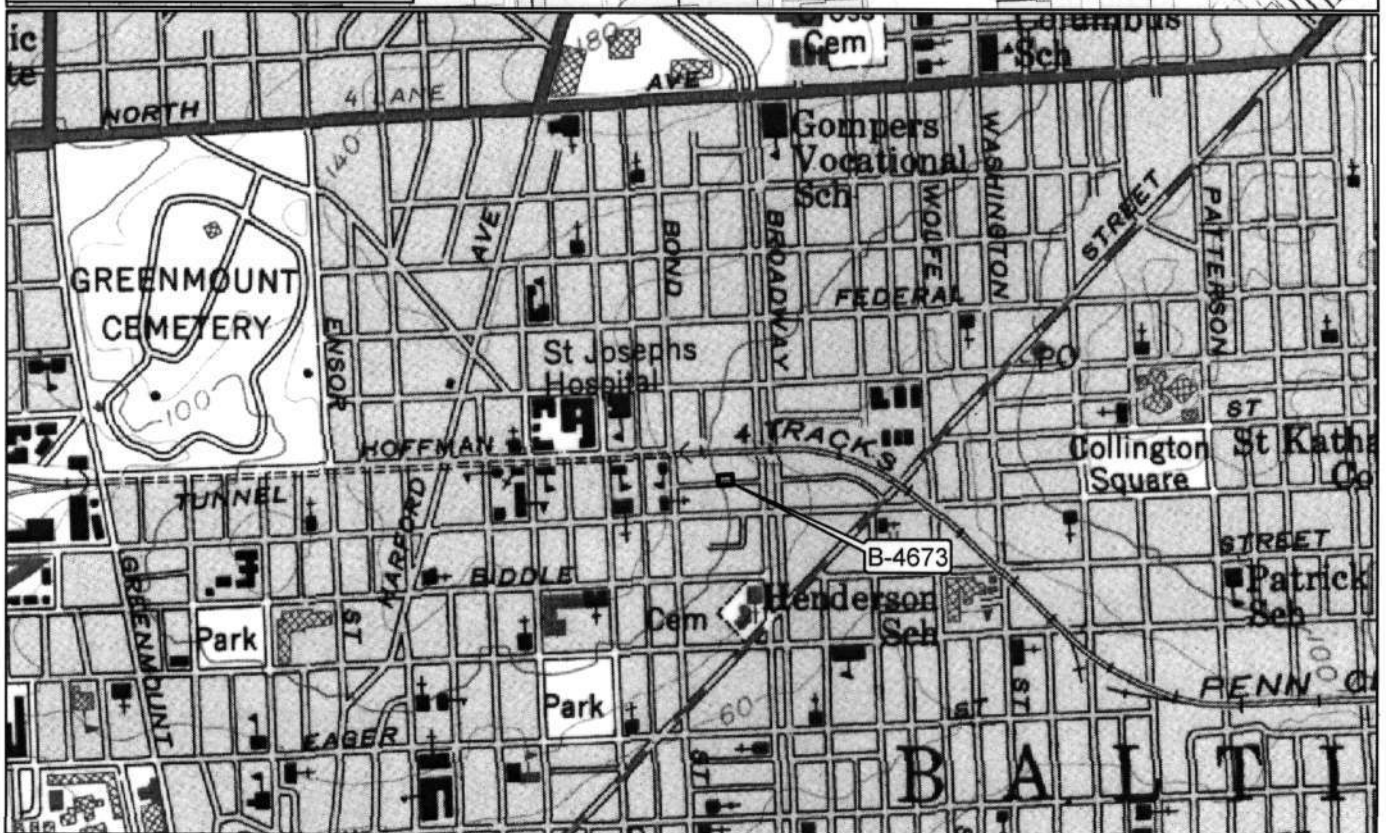
BRC

B-4673  
1630-1642 Ellsworth Street  
Sanborn Map 1914, Reprinted 1953  
Volume 3, Sheet 296



B-4673  
1630-1642 E. Hoffman Street  
Block 1151, Lots 093-099  
Baltimore City  
Baltimore East Quad.

**Demolished**







1630 - 1642 Ellsworth N3

S

180

[263]116 0211 N N N 12

B- 4673

1630-1642 Ellsworth St.

BALTO. MD

S. Allan

5197

MD SATO

1/2



1630 Elsworth

5

8-4673

1630 Elsworth St.

BALTO, MD

S. ANAN

5/97

2/2

125016021 N N N 12